

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

- 1 1. (Original) A method for detecting a data cartridge in a cartridge engaging assembly,
2 comprising:
3 emitting a signal from a signal emitter on the cartridge engaging assembly into a chamber
4 formed within the cartridge engaging assembly;
5 detecting at least a portion of said emitted signal when said emitted signal is reflected
6 from the data cartridge; and
7 generating output to indicate whether said data cartridge is present in said cartridge
8 engaging assembly based on said detected signal.
- 1 2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein emitting the signal is at least during start-up.
- 1 3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein emitting the signal is at least during power-up
2 of the cartridge-engaging assembly.
- 1 4. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising focusing said signal for detection.
- 1 5. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising deciphering a color of said data
2 cartridge based on said detected signal.
- 1 6. (Previously Presented) A data cartridge detection system, comprising:
2 a cartridge engaging assembly for receiving a data cartridge therein;
3 a signal emitter mounted to said cartridge engaging assembly, said signal emitter
4 producing a signal that is reflected by the presence of the data cartridge within said cartridge
5 engaging assembly; and
6 a signal detector operatively associated with said cartridge engaging assembly, said signal
7 detector being responsive to the reflected signal for indicating that the data cartridge is present in
8 said cartridge engaging assembly.

1 7. (Original) A data cartridge detection system, comprising:
2 means for receiving a data cartridge therein;
3 means for emitting a signal positioned on said means for receiving; and
4 means for detecting said signal when said signal is reflected from the data cartridge, said
5 means for detecting mounted to said means for receiving, wherein said means for detecting
6 generates output to indicate whether said data cartridge is present in said means for receiving
7 based on said detected signal.

1 8. (Original) The system of claim 7, wherein said means for emitting comprises a light
2 source.

1 9. (Original) The system of claim 7, wherein said means for detecting comprises a light
2 detector.

1 10. (Previously Presented) A method comprising:
2 detecting a signal reflected from a data cartridge in a picker assembly; and
3 moving the picker assembly after a loading operation if the detected signal indicates the
4 data cartridge is engaged in the picker assembly.

1 11. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 10, further comprising moving the picker
2 assembly after an unloading operation if the detected signal indicates the data cartridge is
3 disengaged from the picker assembly.

1 12. (Original) The method of claim 10, further comprising determining a color of the data
2 cartridge.

1 13. (Original) The method of claim 10, further comprising identifying a type of the data
2 cartridge.

1 14. (Original) The method of claim 10, further comprising identifying a type of the data
2 cartridge based on a color of the data cartridge.

1 15. (Currently Amended) A media storage system comprising:
2 a signal detector responsive to a signal emitted into a picker assembly, said signal
3 detector indicating during a loading operation that a data cartridge is engaged in said picker
4 assembly in response to detecting a reflected signal from the data cartridge, wherein said picker
5 assembly is movable between different locations in the media storage system.

1 16. (Previously Presented) The media storage system of claim 15, wherein said signal
2 detector indicates during an unloading operation that the data cartridge is disengaged from said
3 picker assembly.

1 17. (Previously Presented) The media storage system of claim 15, further comprising a
2 processor determining when the data cartridge is engaged in said picker assembly.

1 18. (Previously Presented) The media storage system of claim 15, further comprising a
2 color-deciphering component determining a color of the data cartridge in said picker assembly.

1 19. (Currently Amended) The media storage system of claim 15, further comprising a
2 processor identifying a type of the data cartridge based on the reflected signal.

1 20. (Previously Presented) The media storage system of claim 15, further comprising a
2 processor identifying a type of the data cartridge based on a color of the data cartridge.

1 21. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising moving the cartridge
2 engaging assembly between first and second positions in response to the generated output
3 indicating that the data cartridge is present in the cartridge engaging assembly.

1 22. (Previously Presented) The data cartridge detection system of claim 6, wherein the
2 cartridge engaging assembly is movable between different locations within a media storage
3 system in response to the reflected signal.

1 23. (Previously Presented) The data cartridge detection system of claim 6, further
2 comprising a computer board on the cartridge engaging assembly, the signal emitter mounted on
3 the computer board.

1 24. (Previously Presented) The data cartridge detection system of claim 6, wherein the signal
2 detector is adapted to detect a color of the data cartridge.

1 25. (Previously Presented) The data cartridge detection system of claim 6, wherein the signal
2 detector is adapted to detect a characteristic of a surface of the data cartridge.